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Maine Writers Correspondence

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September 2015

Mina Holway Caswell Correspondence

Mina Holway Caswell 1869-1946

Hilda McLeod
Maine State Library

Maine State Library

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CASWELL, MINA HOLWAY

resident of Portland, Maine

November 20, 1935

Miss Mina H. Caswell
265 Cottage Street
South Portland, Maine

Dear Miss Caswell:

We read with pleasure in the Portland Telegram of November 10th that you are preparing a biography of the late William R. Chapman, in collaboration with Mrs. Chapman. This is indeed a most interesting and valuable work, and one which the people of Maine will deeply appreciate.

We find that we have no biographical data of yours on file, and since we may now add your name to our list of Maine authors, we hope you will be kind enough to forward some material of this nature. As you know, we desire all available information on our writers.

We take this opportunity to wish for you and the biography its due success, and trust that when it is completed, the State Library will be privileged to have a copy.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

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Secretary

November 20, 1937

Miss Mina H. Caswell
265 Cottage Street
South Portland, Maine

Dear Miss Caswell:

265 Cottage Road,
South Portland, Maine,
September 13, 1937.

My dear Miss McLeod:

We prize your lovely letter--Mrs. Chapman
and I. Yes, to everything, and the material
shortly. We are quite busy just now.

Very sincerely,

Mina H. Caswell

forward some material of this nature. As you know,
we desire all available information on our writers.
We take this opportunity to wish for you and the
biography its due success, and trust that when it is
completed, the State Library will be privileged to
have a copy.

Very truly yours
MAINE STATE LIBRARY

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October 2, 1937

Miss Mina H. Caswell
265 Cottage Street
South Portland, Maine

Dear Miss Caswell:

Some time ago we wrote to you regarding the biography which you were preparing on Mr. William R. Chapman, with the collaboration of Mrs. Chapman. We understand that this book is nearing completion, and that is indeed gratifying news to us.

We will, of course, want to purchase at least one copy for the general lending section of the library, and we will place an order with our book dealer as soon as we are certain in that the book is off the press.

Doubtless you will recall the exhibit collection of books written by Maine authors. We hope that you will want to inscribe and present a copy of your book to this collection. We would also greatly appreciate some biographical information, if you would be so kind as to send it to us, for our reference files.

You have our very best wishes for the success of your forthcoming book. It is one which will certainly prove valuable and interesting to all Maine people, and especially those who realize the great contribution which Mr. Chapman made to the music world.

Very truly yours

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BY

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SECRETARY

April 7, 1938

Miss Mina H. Caswell
265 Cottage Street
South Portland, Maine

Dear Miss Caswell:

Our acknowledgment of the complimentary copy of your remarkable book, MINISTRY OF MUSIC, has been too long delayed, we realize. We have waited, however, hoping that the biographical information which you promised us would arrive. We trust that when you do find the time, you will write a few paragraphs of this nature for our files.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC is a splendid literary monument to the genius of Dr. Chapman, and one for which all music lovers should be deeply grateful. We are cognizant of the responsibility which was yours in accomplishing the vast research and compilation of necessary facts, and while it must have been a fascinating task, still it entailed an unusual amount of care and precision and patience to correlate the material and weld it into the perfectly balanced, absorbing biography which you have achieved. You are to be congratulated upon performing this service to historical, biographical and musical literature; and we, remembering Dr. Chapman with admiration, and knowing you for the accomplished and scrupulously exact writer that you are, feel a special elation in our privilege of claiming you as a Maine woman.

May we send the book to you for an inscription, before we add it to the Maine Author Collection?

Very truly yours

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SECRETARY